FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

27 AUGUST 1985

Libya's Relations With Tunisia, Egypt

After concluding his visit to Libya and Tunisia, Kuwaiti Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir al-Sabah announced "good news of a relaxation in this crisis," adding that this may lead to "practical steps toward restoring accord" between the two countries. Both sides have evinced a desire to contain the problem and prevent it from developing, he disclosed.

In a separate development concerning the expulsion of foreign nationals from Libya, the Libyan health authorities confirmed that a "considerable" number of deported Tunisian and Egyptian workers are suffering from "plague," JANA noted. Egyptian workers returning from Libya have been placed in quarantine, according to sources cited by MENA, but none of those tested thus far have been infected.

Sudan

The Council of Ministers, in a statement carried by SUNA, confirmed amnesty for rebels and called for the Sudanese People's Liberation Movement to abide by a cease-fire in preparation for a "serious" and "objective" dialogue. The southern problem must be tackled within the framework of the overall problem, which is affirming national unity within the diverse cultures and regions, the statement said. It noted the council's willingness to abide by any possible agreement on formulas for local and regional governments in a charter or national accord and to register that in the country's constitution. The statement added that there will be a "national commitment" to ending the unequal growth of various regions in the country, and ensuring the distribution of national wealth, development projects, and services.

Meanwhile, a Culture and Information Ministry spokesman reaffirmed that Libya has ceased its support to southern rebel leader Colonel John Garang, according to SUNA.

Lebanon

The Phalangist Party affirmed its readiness to consider any proposed political reform, Voice of Lebanon radio disclosed in a report on a joint meeting of the party's Political Bureau and Central Council. As for the efforts to control the security situation, National Liberal Party leader Dany Sham'un stressed that Syrian observers will only be able to play an effective role if Syria becomes impartial and ends its military support for the Amal Movement, the radio reported.

Iran

Reacting to the new round of Geneva talks on Afghanistan, an Iranian Foreign Ministry statement broadcast by Tehran radio said any efforts aimed at resolving the Afghan issue without the participation of the nation's "true representatives" are "doomed to failure." The Afghan issue will only be resolved by the immediate and unconditional withdrawal of the "occupying force" from Afghan territory and by not replacing it with other forces, the statement said, adding that Afghan sovereignty must be respected and refugees must be returned.

FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

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Thai Airliner Told Soviet Airspace 'Closed'
HK271254 Hong Kong AFP in English 1250 GMT 27 Aug 85

[Text] New Delhi, Aug 27 (AFP) — A Thai Airways New Delhi-to-London flight returned here today after being told by Soviet ground control on the flight's regular route that Soviet air space was closed, PRESS TRUST OF INDIA (PTI) said.

Thai Airways Flight 904 had left New Delhi more than an hour earlier and was almost over Kabul flying toward the Soviet Union when Soviet ground control told the pilot their air space was closed.

There was no indication of the reason for the closure.

The plane, whose passengers included Commonwealth Secretary-General Shridath Ramphal, was re-routed to London via the Middle East.

Karmal Addresses Nation on 'Id al-Adha Holiday
LD262040 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 26 Aug 85

[Address by Babrak Karmal, secretary general of the PDPA Central Committee and chairman of the Revolutionary Council; place not given — live or recorded]

[Excerpts] In the name of Almighty God. Greetings to you, faithful Afghan Muslims. On behalf of the Revolutionary Council, the DRA Government, and myself, I congratulate you on the occasion of the arrival of the auspicious 'Id al-Adha and all our noble compatriots, nationalities, tribes and clans of our country; all our Pashtun and Baluchi brothers wherever they live; and all the Muslim people of the world, including the fraternal neighboring people of Iran and Pakistan, from the depths of my heart in a fraternal spirit and Islamic brotherhood. I pray for peace and security, friendship and cooperation for the peoples of the world in this auspicious day of the Muslims.

Dear compatriots, let us remember that for the first time in the history of our beloved homeland, our revolutionary state, the DRA, has created the Ministry of Religious Affairs and Endowment, and also the High Council of Ulema and spiritual leaders of the DRA, whose offices are active in all provinces of the country. The faculty of theology within the framework of Kabul University is active, and there are 20 high Madresa and Dar al-Hefaz [establishment for memorizing the Koran] in the country. Religious subjects are taught in all schools, and higher educational and vocational institutions. The DRA has distributed thousands of volumns of the holy Koran, and the Payam-e Haq [the message of truth] magazine, the publicity organ of the Ministry of Religious Affairs, is being consistently printed and distributed. Also radio and television programs, newspapers and journals and other publications have been allocated for the true preaching of Islam.

However, all hypocrites and spies of colonialist imperialism who, in the guise of mujahidin and of the American, English, and Chinese Islam and reactionaries of the region and other enemies of Islam, falsely and satanically speak of Islam and Islamic regimes and are in fact the collaborators of Satan, murderers, saboteurs, thieves and the killers of Afghans and Muslims, and cause tumult.

Today, whereas the enemies of Islam and of our homeland — these hypocrytical bands and rebels — are engaged in destroying and burning mosques and holy places, kill the true mullahs and religious leaders of Islam and plunder public property, violate noble Muslim girls and women of Afghanistan, and savagely murder children, juveniles and old men, the DRA state — that is the revolutioanry popular power of our people — safeguards and maintains the right to a respectful life for the people, repairs destroyed mosques, and builds new ones. To date more than 200 million Afghani have been spent in this regard. In Kabul alone, after the development stage of the April revolution, some 57 new mosques have been built and another 527 mosques and places of worship have been repaired. What do the false mujahidin do? They kill people. Islam says: He who deliberately kills a believer, his punishment is Hell, and Almighty God has promised him great torture. It is clear that the Afghan believers have been killed by the Afghan enemies; the enemies of Afghans are known to all.

The people of Afghanistan extend the hand of friendship and fraternity to all Muslim peoples of the world and ask you Muslim brothers to unite like a fist in struggle against the lunacy of nuclear war on the ground, air and, in outer space in order to rescue mankind from the claws of catastrophe; engage in active struggle against the complete cessation of nuclear tests and the elimination of points of tension in all parts of the world; and hoist the banner of jihad against warmongers. Life has taught us to recognize well the true faces of false friends. Wearing the false mask of defending Islam and the so-called Islamic regime, they provoke hatred, enmity,and bloody hostility among the toiling faithful Muslims. With reference to these false friends, the sacred religion of Islam states that those who tell lies, abusing the name of God, are the worst of individuals. The sworn enemies of the Muslims, that is the ruling powers of the United States, Israel, Britain, and China and their satanical collaborators have made every effort, and are making every effort, to transform all Islamic countries, including our country, into their colonies as in the past. With the help of the forces of dark reaction, they are making vain efforts to dismember our united Islamic Afghan family; transform it into blood, dust, and fire; and pursue the satanical policy of the massacre of Afghans. However, history has proved that no power and force has ever been able to bring to their knees our heoric people. They cannot use the sacred religion of Islam, the petrodollars of reaction, the American dollar, the Pakistani rupee, the English pound, the West German mark,and the Chinese yen against our motherland in the interest of imperialist monopolies.

It is a matter of great regret and sorrow that the medieval reactionary regime of Iran and the militarist regime of Pakistan, linked to America and heretic China under the name of Islam and the Islamic religion, are applying all kinds of hostile treatment against the fraternal Muslim Afghan, Iranian, and Pakistani peoples which are also applied by the Israelis and the Arab reactionaries and imperialists against the Muslim Arab people.

Brothers and sisters, you know that an undeclared and imposed war by heretic forces has been unleashed against our independent country and our toiling and faithful people. In the present conditions our people are faced with great difficulties and hardships. In accordance with justice and the brotherhood of the sacred religion of Islam, we ought to be patient and restrained. With firm faith in hope of the day when welfare for all and peace and security will prevail in our country, let us together tolerate these difficulties and bring closer such a glorious day with just struggle and peaceful work, and ask all our compatriots who have fallen prey to the enemies of Afghanistan and Islam and who have been deceived by hypocrites, to return to the folds of their free and true Muslim homeland and surrender the enemy weapons to their Afghan sisters and brothers, fathers and mothers, girls and boys; come to the service of the people and engage in peaceful and fruitful work for the building of the homeland.

I categorically state that the destiny of the Afghans depends on the Afghans themselves; they will not surrender to the orders and diktat of any foreign country and do not allow any foreign power to interfere in the internal affairs of our country under any name and pretext.

Toiling Muslim compatriots, let us, in line with our laudable traditions and customs and Islamic, humanitarian, and Afghan truth build our new home on the basis of a democratic and progressive system. Let every one of us take an active part in action and thought in the renewal of our united home, our beloved homeland, the free, united, independent and nonaligned Afghanistan, in maintaining peace and security, easing tension, and eliminating problems in our region and throughout the world. We were, are, and shall be supporters of true Islamic justice and abstinence. On the path of peace, freedom, and progress, on the path of service to our compatriots and the salvation of our people and homeland, we are ready and prepared for every kind of sacrifice. This is the slogan of our revolution and our 'Id al-Adha.

Faithful Muslims of the homeland, congratulations on your auspicious holiday of sacrifice, the 'Id al-Adha!

GDR National Front Group Arrives 22 August

LD232047 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1730 GMT 23 Aug 85

[Text] A high-ranking delegation of the GDR National Front, headed by Gerhard Okel, member of the National Front, arrived in Kabul yesterday afternoon at the invitation of the DRA National Fatherland Front Central Council.

A BAKHTAR correspondent reports that the delegation met with Fada Muhammad Dehnashin, first deputy of the NFF Central Council, at his office this morning and discussed matters of interest with him.

Also this morning, the delegation met with [words indistinct] and in the afternoon met with Sayd Amir, deputy of the DRA Peace, Solidarity, and Friendship Committee.

Tribes Pledge Support in National Day Messages

LD250620 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0415 GMT 25 Aug 85

[Text] Kabul, August 24, BAKHTAR — Congratulatory messages addressed to Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA CC and president of the Revolutionary Council of the DRA, have been received here from the Momand, Alamzay, Khawizi, Babazay, Atmarkhayl, Aisa Khayl, Kodkhayl and other tribes on the occasion of the 66th anniversary of regaining independence of Afghanistan.

They, in their message, have expressed their wholehearted congratulations and added that they are sharing this glorious day with their leader, President Babrak Karmal.

They have emphasized in their messages that they have pledged to the party and state of the DRA that they will never allow the Afghani counter-revolutionaries to penetrate Afghanistan for fratricidal purposes.

Tanzanian President Holds Delhi News Conference

BK261701 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 26 Aug 85

[Text] The Tanzanian president, Mr Julius Nyerere, and the prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, had talks in New Delhi today. Bilateral relations and international issues figured in their discussions which lasted about 90 minutes.

Later, addressing a news conference, Mr Nyerere said developments in Africa, particularly the apartheid policy of the racist Pretoria regime; the Nonaligned Movement; and world peace and disarmament were among the issues discussed by him with Mr Gandhi. The forthcoming nonaligned foreign ministers' conference at Luanda and the commonwealth heads of government meeting in Bahamas figured in their talks.

Answering questions, Mr Nyerere said the majority in South Africa is fed up with the racist regime. They are even prepared to die for their freedom. He asserted that the real process for abolition of apartheid in South Africa by force has begun. People of South Africa, he said, are going to put an end to apartheid, and the outside world must help them. He said he does not believe that the white majority regime is prepared to give up power.

On the question of Namibian independence, Mr Nyerere said the United States is putting a block in its way by linking it with the withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola.

Asked about his decision to quit office as president, Mr Nyerere said he has been at the helm of affairs for the last 24 years. It is important to establish a system of change. However, he will continue as chairman of his party for another 2 years. He said one of the reasons for his visit to India is to assure the leadership and the people that relations between India and Tanzania will continue to be very close under the new leadership in his country.

The Tanzanian president pointed out that his country has benefited much from the Indian experience. India has always been the spokesman of the weak nations and has associated itself with the peace movement in the world. He described India as a truly nonaligned country.

Replying to a question on whether Tanzania will host the next nonaligned summit, Mr Nyerere replied in the negative. He said a decision on the venue of the summit will be taken at the nonaligned foreign ministers' conference being held at Luanda next week.

Sri Lanka's Hector Jayewardene Meets Bhandari

BK261615 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 26 Aug 85

[Text] The leader of the Sri Lankan Government delegation to Thimpu talks, Mr Hector Jayewardene, had a meeting with the foreign secretary, Mr Romesh Bhandari, in New Delhi today. A spokesman of the External Affairs Ministry said that something substantial is emerging which may form the basis for an amicable settlement of the ethnic problem in Sri Lanka.

Tamils To Meet Gandhi

HK270844 Hong Kong AFP in English 0809 GMT 27 Aug 85

[Excerpts] New Delhi, Aug 27 (AFP) — Hector Jayewardene, head of the Sri Lankan Government delegation to collapsed talks with the Tamils, has extended his stay here, the Sri Lankan High Commission here said.

Sources said he was awaiting the outcome of meetings between the Tamil groups and Indian Premier Rajiv Gandhi, who sponsored the talks between Colombo and six Tamil groups.

Mr Gandhi tomorrow is to meet Tamil leaders, many of whom are said to be living in southern India. Sources said that he would persuade them to return to restart the talks.

Representatives from the Eelam National Liberation Front [ENLF), grouping the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), the Tamil Eelam Liberation Organisation (TELO), the Eelam People's Revolutionary Liberation Organisation (EPRLF), and the Eelam Revolutionary Organisation of Students (EROS), were expected to arrive here today from Madras, south India.

The representatives, who took part in the Bhutan talks, had been hesitant to come to New Delhi after the Indian Government decided to deport two of their prominent leaders, A.S. Balasingam and S. Chandrahasan, last weekend.

One of the Tamil leaders, Uma Maheswaran of People's Liberation Organisation of the Tamil Eelam (PLOTE), is already in New Delhi and had a one-hour meeting with Mr Gandhi on Sunday.

He told reporters that he had asked his colleagues in Madras to come to New Delhi without delay "to put our case before Mr Gandhi effectively."

"We have a strong case. Let it not go by default," the UNITED NEWS OF INDIA (UNI) agency today quoted him as saying.

Mr Maheswaran criticized the Sri Lankan Government for forming peace proposals while allegedly committing atrocities against Tamils.

Sources here said Mr Gandhi would explain Mr Jayewardene's position on devolution of powers for the Tamil areas, a central issue. This would involve giving legislative and executive powers to the Tamil dominated northern and eastern provinces.

The issue has become complicated with the Tamils demanding linkage of the two provinces and the vesting of law and order powers exclusively in the hands of the Tamil councils which are likely to be set up.

The Sri Lankan Government has rejected the linkage demand, while Tamil militant sources in Madras have maintained they would not relent on either demand.

Indian officials have been pressing Mr Jayewardene to put forward fresh proposals on the question of powers, striking a

balance between Annexure C and the Ceylon Workers' Congress (CWC) proposals, the sources said.

Annexure C, prepared for consideration at an all-party conference in Colombo last year, offers district councils and regional councils.

The CWC proposals drafted by moderate Tamil leader S. Thondaman involve regional councils, one each for the combined northern and eastern provinces and for the Tamil plantation workers who dominate the central highlands.

Schools Closed in Tamil Nadu Due to Deportations

NC261830 Paris AFP in English 1822 GMT
26 Aug 85

[Excerpt] Madras, India, Aug 26 (AFP) — Schools and other educational institutions were closed indefinitely today in Tamil Nadu state in the face of widespread anger over the deportation of two Sri Lankan Tamil separatist leaders, the administration of this Tamil-dominated state said here.

The administration, controlled by the Tamil DMK Party, made the announcement after the deportations from India of A.S. Balasingam, top theoretician of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), and S. Chandrahasan, chairman of the Protection of Tamil Eelam From Genocide.

A third Tamil leader, Sathyendra, left India for Britain before a deportation order could be served on him.

Deported Tamil Said Returning

HK261452 Hong Kong AFP in English 1434 GMT
26 Aug 85

[Text] Marcos, India, Aug 26 (AFP) — A Tamil leader deported to the United States Saturday has refused to seek political asylum in the United States and is on his way back to India, Tamil sources said here today.

S.C. Chandrahasan, convener of the separatist Sri Lankan Tamils Organisation for the Protection of Tamils of Eelam From Genocide, had remained aboard the Air India plane when it reached Boston, and was expected to reach Bombay tomorrow, the sources added.

The flight carrying Mr Chandrahasan was due to land at New York's Kennedy International Airport but was diverted to Boston because of bad weather.

When it arrived, Mr Chandrahasan remained on the plane, the sources said.

He told U.S. immigration officials that he had been brought to the United States much against his will and that he had no intention of seeking asylum there.

A deportation order giving him 48 hours to leave the country was served on him Friday.

Friends of Mr Chandrahasan here were preparing to apply to both the Indian Supreme court and the Madras High Court for an interim stay of the order, but before this could be done he was forcibly put on a New York-bound Air India flight.

In a statement read out from Boston to his associates here on the phone Mr Chandrahasan said he had arrived in India as a refugee from Sri Lanka in 1983.

He had regularly renewed his visa to stay in India on the grounds that his life and liberty were endangered in his country because of his political convictions and human rights activities.

Mr Chandrahasan said he had complete faith in the late Premier Indira Gandhi and the Indian people and continued to have the same faith in Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi.

U.S. immigration officials had suggested that if Mr Chandrahasan did not want to stay in the United States, he could opt for some other country and suggested Malaysia as a possibility, the Tamil soruces said.

However, he refused to go to any country other than India which, he said, had given him asylum and deported him without giving any reason.

A. Amirthalingam, secretary general of the Tamil United Liberation front (TULF), the largest separatist group, today renewed his party's appeal for revocation of the deportation orders against Mr Chandrahasan and A.S. Balasingam of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), who was sent to London on Saturday.

Mr Balasingam is of Sri Lankan origin, but holds a British passport.

Reportage on Upcoming Punjab Election Activities

Akali Dal Forms Election Board

BK261633 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT
26 Aug 85

[Text] The Akali Dal today constituted a 10-member parliamentary board under the chairmanship of Mr Ajit Singh of Ropar. It will select candidates for the assembly and Parliament seats for the forthcoming elections. The members of the board include Mr Surjit Singh Barnala, Mr Parkash Singh Badal, and Mr Gurcharan Singh Tohra.

The party's acting president, Mr Surjit Singh Barnala, told AIR [All India Radio] Chandigarh correspondent that 8 more members have been added to the 25-member executive committee of the party announced yesterday. He said that 5-member committee comprising all senior party leaders has also been constituted to hold negotiations with other Akali factions for forging unity in the party.

Election Schedule Announced

BK261637 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 26 Aug 85

[Text] With the issue of notification this morning, the election process has begun in Punjab. The governor, Mr Arjun Singh, issued the notification for the elections to the 117-member assembly, and the president, Giani Zail Singh, for the Lok Sabha elections from the state. The last date for filing of nominations is the 2d of next month. Scrutiny will take place the next day and the last date for the withdrawal of candidature is the 5th. Polling will be held on the 25th. An estimated 1 crore voters in Punjab are eligible to exercise their franchise. About 13,000 polling booths are to be set up in the state.

Along with the elections in Punjab, notification for two elections in Haryana was also issued today.

Security Arrangements Reorganized

BK270343 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 27 Aug 85

[Text] The Punjab Government has decided to reorganize the security arrangement in the state to ensure free and fair poll as (?means) to ensure the protection of the candidates and the electorate. AIR [All India Radio] Chandigarh correspondent reports that Mr Shiv Swaroop, the adviser to the Punjab governor, and the state home secretary, Mr N.N. Vohra, yesterday held high-level consultations with the Union Home Ministry in Delhi. Additional force for the purpose has already started arriving in the state.

Ten candidates have filed their nomination papers for the assembly and Lok Sabha elections from the state on the opening day yesterday. All of them are independents.

Police Shoot Four in Gujarat 26 August

BK261607 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1542 GMT 26 Aug 85

[Text] In Gujarat, four persons were injured in police firing at Gandhinagar this afternoon when a section of state government employees took out a rally. They were demanding the scrapping of the recently reached accord on the roster system of promotion. The condition of two of the injured is reported to be serious.

The state chief minister, Mr Amarsinh Choudhari, has appealed to the employees to solve their problems through negotiation. Talking to newsmen in Gandhinagar, he said the state government will examine the demands of these employees submitted to him in a memorandum today.

Assam Minister on Rights of Disfranchised

BK270330 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 27 Aug 85

[Text] The Assam law minister, Mr A.M. Majumdar, has said that disfranchised people of the state will continue to enjoy all other rights of residence, property, service, trade, and business without any restriction. He said this after meeting the union law minister, Mr A.K. Sen, and the election commissioner, Mr R.K. Trivedi, yesterday. Mr Majumdar said there will be no discrimination against disfranchised people. Under the Assam accord, foreign nationals who had entered the state before the cutoff year of 1966 are to be disfranchised for 10 years from the date of detection.

Paper Urges Development of Assam's Potential

BK261044 Delhi THE INDIAN EXPRESS in English 21 Aug 85 p 6

[Editorial: "Tasks in Assam"]

[Text] Mr Hiteshwar Saikia has done well to recommend dissolution of the Assam Assembly as an alternative to President's rule, thus paving the way for fresh elections by year-end. AASU [All Assam Students Union] and AAGSP [All Assam Gana Sangram Parishad — People's Action Committee] had never "recognised" the Saikia administration as they challenged the legality of the 1983 poll. On this they were on weak ground, but they undoubtedly had a strong case on grounds of legitimacy. The via media devised, namely, dissolution and reconstitution of the Saikia ministry, should satisfy all sides though the Assam movement leaders have expressed unhappiness over the size of the caretaker government, with 17 ministers as against the previous 37.[sentence as published] However, this is not a matter of great consequence provided the administration functions as a caretaker and no more. Some sections of the AAGSP, including the Purbanchaliya Lok Parishad, have also expressed dissatisfaction with the accord. But they do not represent the mainstream. On the whole, the settlement has been welcomed with universal relief, though care and vigilance will need to be exercised to prevent malcontents and agents provocateur exploiting the situation by appeal to communal or linguistic passions, false propaganda or violence.

Electoral processes apart, three main tasks confront the government and leaders of opinion in Assam. The first is to minimise if not altogether prevent any further influx of foreign nationals. The surest means of detection would be speedily to complete arrangements to ensure registration of births, marriages, deaths and property transfers and to issue identity cards to all citizens in Assam. Secondly, border security will have to be maintained at a high level of efficiency and incorruptibility at all times. The idea of a border fence or other obstacles such as walls has not been abandoned, but in response to Bangladesh's susceptibilities, this is now proposed to be erected a little away from "zero point", with a road running beyond it (within Indian territory) to facilitate patrolling. A fence is at best an ineffective though expensive answer to border infiltration, but in the present circumstances it has become a political commitment and a psychological necessity, at least along some of the more vulnerable non-riverine sectors. Thirdly, since 1966-71 non-citizens are merely to be disenfranchised in situ for 10 years without loss of employment or other civic or economic rights, there is no reason why there should be any distress migration to West Bengal or elsewhere. The real challenge is to accelerate development not only in Assam but in the entire northeast which has a fantastic

potential waiting to be tapped. There is a good case for preparing an imaginative northeastern development plan and strengthening the North-Eastern Council to undertake programmes over and above those provided for in the Seventh Plan of the individual units. The Assam accord has opened up new opportunities.

Union Carbide, Local Supervisors 'Callous'
BK261056 Delhi THE INDIAN EXPRESS in English 21 Aug 85 p 6

[Editorial: "More Bhopals?"]

[Text] If there was any doubt about Union Carbide's defective safety standards after the Bhopal gas disaster, it has vanished after a second (though lesser) gas leak at the company's parent plant at Institute, West Virginia, U.S.A. The Institute plant, similar to the one here, was closed down for safety checks after the Bhopal disaster, and subsequently declared totally safe. Local residents were assured that a Bhopal-type leakage was impossible. But only recently there has been a major gas leak at Institute injuring hundreds. Fortunately the gas was not methyl isocyanate [MIC], otherwise the scale of disaster might have rivalled Bhopal. As at Bhopal, supervisors at Institute delayed sounding an alarm, hoping that the gas cloud would not spread over the city and that the leakage could be hushed up. This shows that the company's attitude as well as its equipment leaves a great deal to be desired.

However, the failings of the American multinational must not be used as an excuse to overlook the lack of safety standards in India. Many things that went wrong at Bhopal must be blamed on local workers and supervisors, according to a report on the accident by the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions. No normal safety devices could have coped with the enormous amount of gas created by a mysterious leakage of a large quantity of water into the MIC tank.

The ICFTU [International Confederation of Free Trade Unions] report suggests that the failure of local staff to observe standard safety procedures while cleaning some pipes resulted in the leakage of water into the tank. Bleeder valves meant to expel the entering water were clogged but nobody took any notice. The tank itself was three-quarters full, whereas the U.S. parent company had specified that it should not be more than half full. The job of maintenance supervisor in charge of the cleaning shift had been scrapped a few days earlier as an economy measure. The gas vent flare was not in working order. All this suggests a callous indifference to human life and safety on the part of the Indian supervisors as well as that of the parent company.

The excruciating truth is that safety consciousness is even worse at many other hazardous plants in India. Too many people are content with pinning the blame for Bhopal on the American multinational and forgetting about the callous attitude to maintenance and safety in several walks of life in India.

Unless there is a sustained attempt to change this attitude, there will be many more Bhopals which owe nothing to the failings of multinationals.

PAKISTAN

Radio Reports 'Fierce' Afghanistan Fighting

BK261602 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 26 Aug 85

[Text] Reports from Afghanistan say that there is fierce fighting in Pakitia Province, where thousands of Soviet-Karmal soldiers where deployed to crush the activities of Afghan mujahidin at the beginning of this month. This fighting is going on in areas surrounding Khowst and Gardes, and (?near) the roads connecting the cantonments of these cities. According to reports, 15 Soviet-Karmal soldiers were killed in a surprise attack on Friday, and several tanks and military vehicles were destroyed by land mines.

SRI LANKA

Government Denies Burning Homes, Shops

HK270756 Hong Kong AFP in English 0736 GMT 27 Aug 85

[Text] Colombo, Aug 27 (AFP) — The Sri Lankan Government today denied a statement by the main Tamil political party that police burned down nearly 400 Tamil homes and shops along the east coast last Friday.

National Security Minister Lalith Athulathmudali told AGENCE FRANCE PRESSE that the claim by the Tamil United Liberation Front (TULF) was highly exaggerated.

He said that some houses, mostly huts, had been torched several hours after a landmine set by Tamil separatists exploded near a police convoy, wounding six policemen, in the eastern Kalkudah area on Friday.

Hours after the police investigated the blast, several people in civilian dress and in uniform arrived and set fire to some of the homes. He said this was reported by Home Minister Bill Devanayagam, who also represents that constituency.

The security minister said that many of the homes belonged to supporters of the ruling United National Party but a few belonged to supporters of the TULF.

Investigations into the incident are under way, he said.

In an incident on Sunday, 10 Tamil militants were killed in the eastern Ampara District where on Friday an army unit on training had killed six others, security sources told AFP today.

The sources said that an army detail had been fired on by separatists near Tirrukkovil and returned the fire. Following the fight, the army recovered grenades and shotguns.

A section of Sri Lanka's 2.5 million Tamils have been waging a bloody battle for independence in the north and east.

Talks between the government and Tamil groups to settle the matter collapsed last week after the Tamil groups walked out of an alleged massive killing of Tamil civilians by security forces, which the government has denied.

Diplomatic sources here dismissed a report by the official news agency here, LANKAPUWATH, that Uma Maheswaran, leader of the Peoples Liberation Organisation of Tamil Eelam, had gone to Lebanon to join the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

"Nothing of the sort happened. Maheswaran was in London and has returned to India," one diplomatic source said.

In the north, some students and Tamil groups have begun a demonstration to protest the deportation of two militant Tamil leaders from India while others were disrupting train services to the north with hold-ups, sources in Jaffna said today. India last week ordered deported S.C. Chandrahasan of the Separatist Sri Lankan Tamils Organization, and A.S. Balasingham of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam.

Tamil Landmine Kills 6 Sri Lankan Sailors

HK270836 Hong Kong AFP in English 0821 GMT 27 Aug 85

[Excerpt] Colombo, Aug 27 (AFP) — A Landmine set by Tamil separatists exploded and killed six navy men, and a bystander died in a fight that followed in northeastern Sri Lanka today, state radio reported.

Security forces have been on alert in the northeast, particularly where intelligence reports earlier said Tamil militants were massing for possible attacks on government forces and Sinhala residents, sources have said.

The radio said the six died when a vehicle in which they were riding struck the landmine and a woman bystander was killed in crossfire between the surviving sailors and militants.

The incident occurred in Trincomalee District, the radio said.

Colombo Confirms Sailors' Deaths

BK271107 Colombo International Service in English 1030 GMT 27 Aug 85

[Text] Six sailors of the Sri Lankan Navy and a woman passenger were killed when the jeep they were traveling in was blown up this morning by a terrorist landmine 2 miles off the port of Trincomalee.

Security forces told LANKAPUWATH that the tragedy occurred at 0730 [0200 GMT]. The sources added that the sailors were on their way to the naval town headworks. They had turned onto the gravel road which leads to the town from the (Attarana)-Colombo road when the landmine exploded as the jeep was going over the culvert, blowing up the vehicle and killing its occupants. The sailors had earlier left the naval dockyard at Trincomalee for the town.

Further Reportage on Damascus Tripartite Meeting

Velayati Briefs Syrian President

LD261153 Tehran IRNA in English 1130 GMT 26 Aug 85

[Text] Damascus, Aug 26, IRNA — Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati who headed an Iranian delegation to Syria, Sunday reported latest developments of the Iraqi-imposed war to the Syrian president Hafiz al-Asad.

During the two-hour meet, regional issues specially situation Lebanon were discussed and President Asad hailed struggles of the Lebanese Muslim nation.

The two sides also discussed mutual relations and President Asad conveyed a message of congratulation to President 'Ali Khamene'i on his renewed election as president of the Islamic Republic.

Foreign Minister Velayati gave a detailed report to the Syrian president on the tripartute meeting between Iranian, Libyan and Syrian delegations here.

Also present in the meeting were Iran's IRGC (Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps) minister, Mohsen Rafiqdust and Foreign Ministry political director general for Afro-Arab affairs Hoseyn Lavasani.

The Iranian delegation which arrived here Friday to take part in the tripartite meeting of foreign ministers of Iran, Syria, and Libya, left Syria on Monday.

Velayati Returns, Discusses Talks

GF270622 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 27 Aug 85

[Text] Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati, who had gone to Damascus to participate in the tripartite talks between Iran, Syria, and Libya, returned to Tehran after 3 days of discussions on the war imposed by Iraq on Iran, developments in Lebanon and the region, and the nonaligned conference. Mr Velayati discussed the tripartite meeting of the Iranian, Libyan, and Syrian foreign ministers in Damascus in an interview with our correspondent at the airport.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified correspondent] On the eve of the nonaligned conference in Luanda, tripartite talks were held in Damascus with the participation of the Iranian, Libyan, and Syrian foreign ministers. We ask the foreign minister of our country, Dr Velayati, to tell us about the discussions.

[Velayati] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. The recent meeting of the three countries of Iran, Syria, and Libya in Damascus was the second meeting of its kind. Considering the sensitivity and importance of the present time and also the level and make-up of the delegations from the three countries attending the meeting, the importance of this gathering was far greater than the previous one.

Participating from the Islamic Republic were Mr Rafiqdust, the respected minister of the Islamic Guards Corps, and political officials from the Foreign Ministry as well as Guards Corps officials and the ambassadors to Libya and Syria. The Syrian and Libyan counterparts of the Iranian delegates also actively participated in the discussions. Considering that the session was held following the defeated Casablanca conference and on the eve of the nonaligned meeting, it was of special importance.

The major topics of discussion were: issues of the war imposed by Iraq on Iran; coordination and cooperation between the three countries in seriously opposing the regime of Saddam until its overthrow; aid to Palestinian and Lebanese fighters and the Syrian Government and people to seriously oppose the regime occupying Palestine; help to the Libyan brothers in their struggle against plots hatched by imperialism, Zionism, and their reactionary servants in northern Africa against Libya; and the results of discussions by members of the collusion axis — that is, Baghdad, Amman, and Cairo.

A very comprehensive statement which was approved after two long sessions in Damascus shows the success in cooperation and coordination achieved by the three countries. We also succeeded in holding very fruitful discussions with the respected president of the Syrian Arab Republic, His Excellency Hafiz al-Asad, and gave him a message from His Excellency Mr Khamene'i. We also discussed regional issues.

[Correspondent] When is the next session?
[Velayati] God willing, during December in Tripoli.
[Correspondent] Thank you very much. [End recording]

Hajj Viewed as Focus for Anti-Imperialist Campaign

LD241338 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0445 GMT 24 Aug 85

[Political review: "Rocking the Black House from Mecca"]

[Excerpts] Last Thursday morning Iranian and non-Iranian hajj pilgrims repeated their vows with the monotheist call of the prophet after 1,400 years, while most of the Islamic countries are being kept under direct or indirect domination by superpowers which have been preparing the foundations for further exploitation of Muslims' resources by starving Muslims of their Islamic culture.

Marches are taking place at a time when the Islamic world is afflicted with bitter and sorrowful developments, all due to the domination by infidels. Now, in southern Lebanon we see many unknown Muslim leaders rolling in their blood under the hail of bullets from the Zionist regime. These leaders, who have risen to face the Zionist occupiers in an unequal battle relying only on divine succor and their own initiatives, are not being aided by any of the Arab and Muslim governments. Neither those that have outwardly chosen revival of ethnic ideals or nobility of being Arab; nor those that gather at various conferences and assemblies on behalf of Islamic countries and for the so-called defense of Muslim rights, have given aid.

Afghanistan is another scene of one of the most painful and bitter experiences enveloping the wronged Muslims of that land where Russian bullets tear through the breasts of those whose crime is

to seek freedom. Which one of the Islamic or humanitarian bodies have come to the assistance of these innocent and homeless refugees facing such blatant crimes and Soviet weaponry, beyond limited and fruitless discussions which fundamentally pursue political goals?

At the present time, the colonialists inventing more advanced and deadly military hardware on the one hand, and inhibiting Muslims from evolving weapons technology on the other, have maintained the military balance to their own benefit. This balance has aided them in supressing liberation calls by the deprived. Such savage mass murders as in Afghanistan, Lebanon, Palestine, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, and other places find root in the same military supremacy.

Most important of all, arrogance employs the largest part of its energy for the task of starving Muslims of the rich humanitarian culture of Islam since Muslims are duty-bound to study various scientific fields. [as heard]

Films, television, radio, and all media sources have always been used by the colonialists. They have conveyed their domineering ideals through corrupting films sold at low prices to the deprived countries.

The Islamic countries should end the domination of the superpowers before gaining scientific enlightenment and apply the man-molding commands of Islam. Respect for Islamic commands and the domineering presence of the superpowers are two absolutely contradictory entities which cannot coexist in the same country. Muslims relying on divine succor and on the preservation of Islamic unity, can, by hardening their will and gaining inspiration from early Islamic warfare, put an end to the domination of the superpowers, particularly that of the arch-satan with all its military advantages, and establish a new order based on independence.

The ideal place to discuss the all-round campaign strategy against the domination fo the superpowers is the glorious hajj conference, as it is the only center at which Muslims may inform each other of their real fate and confer about coordinated decisions. The great God gives hajj special importance, as He commands in Baqarah: God Almighty has founded that holy house for peoples to rise and move. [Koranic verse]

Majlis Speaker Blames Superpowers for War

LD251626 Tehran IRNA in English 1539 GMT 25 Aug 85

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 25, IRNA — Majlis speaker Hahemi-Rafsanjani Sunday said that if the world public opinion accepted the fact that the Islamic Republic of Iran has been forced to continue the nearly five year-old Iraqi imposed war "many problems would be solved".

Speaking to Dr. Kamanal Khorrazi, the head of the War Information Headquarters, Rafsanjani noted that the Islamic Republic of Iran has not been able to fully present the realities of the war abroad.

He said the ongoing war was one of the strangest in history because Iran did not want to fight, but, has however come to be known as an "advocate of war."

He said although there were individuals who realized the truth of the matter but [as received] the world public opinion did not know that Islamic Iran was continuing the war as a measure of defence.

The speaker said Iran was purging its armed forced after the 1979 Islamic revolution when Iraq attacked and was "never prepared to enter battle with another country".

Furthermore, he said, Iran never wanted war with its neighbours because it was aware of the damages and destruction that war would bring. He said neither was Iraq prepared to do battle with a country three times its size.

Rafsanjani accused the superpowers for having provoked the war in a bid to destroy the Islamic revolution of Iran. "War was the last measure (superpowers) could deploy" he said.

He said the superpowers had earlier tried to destroy the revolution through internal rebellion, or through a subtle change in the contents of the revolution, but had failed to do so and thus resorted to a war.

"That they speak of peace today is a lie. It is an effort to safeguard their interests. They want the war to end with a victory for Iraq and they want to see the Islamic Republic weak and undeveloped" he said.

If a ceasefire is declared today, he said, it would be a loss for Iran because it would "keep Iraq blackmailing other countries of the region as a protector".

Majlis speaker then criticized reactionary countries of the region and said they knew the Islamic Republic never wanted to attack its neighbours, but they used the imaginary threat as an excuse to justify their policies.

"They do not fear us" he said referring to the reactionary countries of the region "but fear the waves of popular Islamic culture and the spiritual magnestism of Islam".

Rafsanjani said these countries wanted Iran to accept peace, thereby safeguarding their own interests.

This issue must have been foreseen in their war strategy that is, if Iran did not lose the war, "some sort of ceasefire would be established, putting Iran face to face with the countries of the region".

Rafsanjani said peace was perhaps conceivable if the superpowers were not provoking and if it was against the interests of the superpowers and the local reactionaries and if Iran was assured that it would be a lasting peace. "But this is not the reality," he added.

"The enemy does not want to see a victorious revolution in a place such as Iran which enjoys large natural (resources) and social

potential. It fears that the country would become a model for others" he said. "If we could assure the world that we are on the defensive in an effort to keep our revolution and to build our country... many problems would be solved," he added.

"If only we could tell the world that the enemy has unsheathed his sword and is not seeking peace and we have picked up a shield but do not want war but wish to punish the aggressor," he said.

Rafsanjani: Industries Will Not Be Denationalized
LD261619 Tehran IRNA in English 1545 GMT 26 Aug 85

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 26, IRNA — Majlis Speaker Hashemi-Rafsanjani said Monday that industries nationalized after the 1979 Islamic revolution would not be handed back to their former owners. Addressing the managers of nationalized industries, Rafsanjani said "I assure you that nobody will be able to take back these factories which must be in the control of the Nation".

He said "One of the most important gains of the revolution was to take away parts of the industry from the ruling oppressors... but (now) there are interested individuals who want to question the issue".

Many Iranian factory owners fled the country after the fall of the former regime in 1979. Later the ruling Revolution Council took confiscated property and put them under the care of the Organization of Nationalized Industries, ONI.

The organization holds a conference in Tehran every year where its managers review past record and program future work.

Rafsanjani told the managers that some of the confiscations could have been wrong but he said "in a revolutionary situation there is no time to distinguish".

The move had been necessary to "politically disarm" the former ruling elite, he added.

"Those gentlemen who (now) support these capitalists and say it is in the interest of production and workers to bring back the old rich manager, must know that the production increase would be at the cost of exploiting the workers" he said.

Rafsanjani referred to recent reports published by ONI on production quotas and said the working people who were administered the war effort against Iraq could run factories with the same efficiency.

Much of the war effort in the Islamic Republic is administered by volunteers from the less able sections of the society.

The three-day managerial conference started Saturday and already the prime minister and the chief justice have called for deliberations over the possible sale of the factories to the workers.

The minister of heavy industries, Behzad Nabavi, who spoke at the meeting Sunday, sharply criticized the possibility of selling the factories to the private sector.

He said selling factory shares to workers was a good measure for stopping the revival of neo-capitalism in Iran.

Envoy in Turkey Meets With Economic Official
LD241838 Tehran IRNA in English 1635 GMT 24 Aug 85

[Text] Ankara, Aug. 24, IRNA — Iran's ambassador to Turkey Manuchehr Mottaki met with Turkey's minister of state in charge of economic relations with the Islamic Republic, Friday.

Current bilateral economic relations were discussed and Mottaki extended an invitation from Iran's minister of heavy industries Behzad Nabavi to the Turkish official for his participation in the coming 11th Tehran International Trade Fair.

A Turkish delegation is expected to arrive in Tehran on Aug. 30.

Envoy Meets With Oman's Commerce Minister
LD241238 Tehran IRNA in English 1120 GMT 24 Aug 85

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 24, IRNA — Iran's charge d'affaires in Oman, Mohammad Kazem Hassani Tabataba'i met and conferred with Omanese commerce and industry minister, Colonel Salim ibn 'Abdallah al-Ghazali, on Friday.

During the meeting, the Omanese minister praised Imam Khomeyni's leadership and said that no country in the world observed Islamic principals as completely as Iran did.

He said that what was happening in Iran was an example of the implementation of Islamic laws which was different from what was enforced in other countries. The Omanese minister added that in the Islamic Republic of Iran people had a deep faith in Islam.

He stressed that the commerce and industry ministry of Oman welcomes any cooperation with the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Foreign Ministry: Geneva Talks 'Doomed to Failure'
LD261650 Tehran IRNA in English 1647 GMT 26 Aug 85

[Text] Tehran Aug 26 IRNA — The Foreign Ministry of the Islamic Republic of Iran announced here Monday that the new round of the Geneva talks on the Afghanistan issue is "doomed to failure" since the real representatives of the Afghan nation are absent from the conference.

In a statement issued here Monday, the Iranian Foreign Ministry reiterated that the Afghan issue would be resolved only through the immediate and unconditional withdrawal of the occupier forces and their non-replacement with any other oppressive force, as well as through the honorable return of all Afghan refugees to their homeland.

The sovereignty of the Afghan nation must be respected and the Afghan people must be given the right to determine their own fate, the statement concluded.

Further Details

LD261725 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 26 Aug 85

[Text] In connection with the new round of Geneva talks the Islamic Republic of Iran Foreign Ministry has issued the following statement:

God will not change the fate of any nation unless nations change their fates themselves. In circumstances where the valiant and striving Afghan nation has for nearly 6 years been the source of admiration and astonishment to the whole world with its relentless and destiny-making struggles following an onslaught by foreign forces, the Geneva negotiations -- concerning an agreement between the two superpowers on the future of the Muslim Afghan nation -- are being prepared once again.

The Islamic Republic of Iran believes that any negotiations with the puppet Kabul regime disregarding the true demand of the Afghan people can only serve the interests and designs of the superpowers.

Along with the wronged Afghan nation, the Islamic Republic of Iran declares once again that any efforts aimed at resolving the Afghanistan issue without the participation of the true representatives of that country will be rejected and in the final analysis doomed to failure.

We believe that the issue of Afghanistan can be resolved only through the immediate and unconditional withdrawal of occupying force from Afghan territory, by not replacing the occupying force with any other forces, by the honorable return of all Afghan refugees to their country, and by respecting the rights of the Muslim people of Afghanistan to their sovereignty and self-determination.

Kuwait, in 'Hostile Actions', Expels 347 Nationals

GF251555 Bushehr Domestic Service in Persian 1330 GMT 25 Aug 85

[Text] The Kuwaiti Government, continuing its hostile actions against the Islamic Republic of Iran, during the past month has expelled a total of 347 Iranians.

According to the Central News Unit, members of this group, most of whose property and belongings were confiscated by the Kuwaiti Government, have arrived at various ports in Bushehr Province in motorboats. They have been housed in special refugee camps in the port of Bushehr.

Following their arrest, most of the deported were tortured and harassed by Kuwaiti authorities. In an interview with the Central News Unit correspondent, one of them described the aims of the Kuwaiti Government in expelling Iranian Muslims. He commented on their savage behavior toward the Iranians and said: The least torture given to Iranians in Kuwaiti jails was to be beaten with electric cables on the soles of the feet. In other cases special automatic torture machines are used.

Tehran Comments on Iraqi Consul's Spy Links

GF251759 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1330 GMT 25 Aug 85

[From the "Voice of the Islamic Revolution in Iraq" program]

[Text] Informed sources in Kuwait have emphasized that Nazim al-Juburi, Iraqi consul in Kuwait, was a liaison officer between the Ba'thist intelligence services and those responsible for the recent bombings and fires in Kuwait.

Information indicates that the Iraqi official was in charge of the Ba'thist intelligence services in Cairo. After this became known, he was transferred to Kuwait.

The Ba'thist Embassy spread the news about his transfer to the Foreign Ministry in Baghdad before the attempt against the amir of Kuwait in order to complete the farce of his transfer to Baghdad. [Sentence as heard] Consequently, this concealed his role in planning the bombings and fires which took place in Kuwait recently.

Al-Juburi supervises the intelligence and party organizational organ in Kuwait. He chaired open seminars the embassy used to conduct for Iraqis residing in Kuwait who collaborate with it.

Among the intelligence establishments Al-Juburi supervised which worked under various names are the Al-Masar Company and the joint Iraqi-Kuwaiti Contracting Company, which is based at the fire department roundabout in the center of Kuwait.

It should be noted that all who work at this company [as heard] are Iraqi intelligence services members.

The sources affirmed that Al-Juburi has a direct relationship with 'Udayy Saddam Husayn, eldest son of Iraq's pharaoh, who began to practice his authority by masterminding acts of oppression and sabotage, and the pursuits of the Iraqi intelligence services in cooperation with his uncle Barzan al-Tikriti, who resumed his duties at the oppression organ after a tribal reconciliation with his brother Saddam.

Commentary on Release of Sudanese POW's

GF251503 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1330 GMT 25 Aug 85

[From the "Voice of the Islamic Revolution in Iraq" program]

[Text] Some press reports indicate that the Islamic Republic will decide to release Sudanese POW's arrested by Islamic forces during battles with the forces of Baghdad's regime. It is noteworthy that the POW's of the criminal Saddam al-Qadisiyah include a great number of foreign mercenaries of various nationalities.

The Baghdad regime recruited mercenaries from among workers inside Iraq and from abroad to compensate for the acute shortage in its military following great human losses. The smallest estimates state that the losses of the Baghdad regime are more than half a million dead.

Police, Interior Ministry Officials Outline Duties

LD241327 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 24 Aug 85

[Text] Colonel Samimi, the chief of police of the Islamic Republic of Iran, and Mr Salek, deputy interior minister for the Islamic Revolution Committees, today at a joint news conference explained the combined responsibilities of these two bodies.

According to our reporter, the police of the Islamic Republic of Iran will now be the law, order and services body responsible for procedures related to the finger-print department; identification; international police activity; intelligence; driving and traffic departments; railroad and airways security; services and procedures concerning police stations; provision of security services for state departments and offices, banks, hotels, and international conferences; the Passport and Aliens Office; and all legal marches having the approval of the Interior Ministry.

In accordance with these tasks, the Islamic Revolution Committees, too, will be considered as law, order and security police, and will be responsible for providing security forpersonalities and for investigating all crimes and matters relating to security, intelligence, and counterrevolution within the limits of the law.

The Islamic Revolution Committees will also be responsible for investigating affairs concerning the fight against narcotics and against religious crimes; guarding public buildings; controlling disturbances, unlawful demonstrations, and every kind of disorder with counterrevolutionary overtones. The police antinarcotics departments and branches in the provinces have been disbanded and placed under the provincial intelligence offices.

According to this report, in provincial centers where the Islamic Revolution Committees have not yet been established, these duties will be under the direction of the police of those provincial centers.

Mr Salek, referring to the preparation and issuance of the law and order regulations of the committees, stated: In order to preserve the genuine revolutionary and Islamic nature of the Islamic Revolution Committees, in the case of every kind of offence and violation dealt with, people can inform -- in writing -- officials in charge of the committees about any offences against the law and order forces of the committees, so that in every case the necessary action may be taken.

While thanking the Hezbollah ummah for providing information to the Islamic Revolution Committees on minigroups waging war against God, and on narcotic smugglers, Mr Salek stated: In the course of the last 2 months, 1,683.469 kilograms of narcotics were confiscated from smugglers, and during the year 1363 [21 March 1984-21 March 1985] 24,338.932 kilograms were captured; in connection with counterrevolutionary offenders, 609 were handed over to the relevant courts.

Colonel Samimi, chief of the state police, at the conclusion of the news conference, expressed the hope that with the arrangements made for the preliminary implementations of this plan, the country will soon witness the separation in the duties of these two institutions so that they may serve the Islamic revolution side by side and with the cooperation of the Hezbollah ummah in the best possible manner.

Nejat-e Iran on Disbanding Police

GF251906 (Clandestine) Radio Nejat-e Iran in Persian 1630 GMT 25 Aug 85

[Text] Removing control from the hands of our country's police force has angered nationalist Iranians. We remind you that yesterday, Mullah Salek, deputy of the Ministry of Interior and commander of the regime's armed revolutionary committees unveiled another of the regime's shameless plots. This dealt with disbanding Iran's police force.

According to a correspondent of Nejat-e Iran, the Islamic Revolutionary Committees are comprised of thugs and fugitive criminals. It is of course natural that they would constantly fight and argue with the orderly police force of our country. Now, compared to the first days of the mullahs' rule, these arguments have increased.

The ruling clergy, who are against order and calm, after dealing with the Armed Forces, have now struck a fatal blow against the country's police force. We remind you that 2 weeks ago, two police colonels were murdered by armed men of the Islamic Revolutionary Committees. These two colonels were pursuing a band of committee members engaged in various types of smuggling.

On the other hand, Khomeyni's prime minister, at the start of last week, ordered the Ministry of Finance and Economy to cut the funds of the police force by two-thirds and to allocate this sum toward expanding the revolutionary committees throughout the country. This sum was ordered to be handed over to Mullah Salek.

According to the latest report we have received in this regard, yesterday afternoon a group of police officers handed in their resignations to Colonel Samimi, the incapable chief of police.

Further Reportage on Operations of Iraqi Kurds

GF261618 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1330 GMT 26 Aug 85

[From the "Voice of the Islamic Revolution in Iraq" program]

[Text] Muslim Kurdish revolutionaries have attacked one of the dens of corruption in the area of Batufah, northern Iraq, which was frequented by Saddamist mercenaries.

Reports from Iraq indicate that during the attack, the revolutionaries destroyed the den and killed seven popular Army members in it.

The Kurdish revolutionaries have also attacked the Batufah police station. They destroyed a vehicle of the Ba'thist forces in the city of Dahuk. In the city of Chuwartah, the Kurdish revolutioanaries attacked a military base of the Ba'thist forces and inflicted considerable damage.

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iraq

Joint Staff Communique

LD261606 Tehran IRNA in English 1600 GMT 26 Aug 85

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 26, IRNA — The Joint Staff Command said Monday that sporadic artillery duels between Iran's Muslim combatants and Iraqi troops continued in all fronts.

Reporting confrontations of the past 24 hours, the command said that Iranian shelling in the northern front killed and wounded at least 30 Iraqi troops. The shelling halted enemy transportation and destroyed a number of their bunkers and vehicles, it said.

The enemy also suffered casualties and damages in the western and southern fronts as a result of the duels.

In the vicinity of the Arvand River the Gendarmerie forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran attacked Iraqi positions causing undetermined amount of damages and casualties, it said. The command added that Iraqi artillery fire on the ports of Abadan and Khorramshahr damaged a number of houses.

Bushehr Governor Visits Khark Island

GF261611 Bushehr Domestic Service in Persian 1330 GMT 26 Aug 85

[Text] According to the correspondent of the Central News Unit, Mr Zamanian, governor general of Bushehr Province, arrived in Khark Island this morning. Following his arrival, he took part in a meeting of the island's administrative officials. This meeting was held in the central administrative office of the island. During the meeting, the main issues of Khark Island were discussed.

Khorramshahr, Abadan Shelled

GF261627 Ahvaz Domestic Service in Persian 1330 GMT 25 Aug 85

[Text] Over the past 24 hours the steadfast towns of Abadan and Khorramshahr, suffered continued shelling by heavy artillery units of the mercenaries of the Ba'thist-Zionist regime ruling Iraq. According to the Central News Unit from Abadan, as a result of these savage acts, parts of five houses were damaged in Abadan. Some damage was also reported in Khorramshahr.

Nejat-e Iran Reports Heavy Casualties on Warfronts

GF251855 (Clandestine) Radio Nejat-e Iran in Persian 1630 GMT 25 Aug 85

[Text] Independent news sources have announced that as a result of hostilities over the past 48 hours between Iran and Iraq in the Hawizah area, a large number of deluded Iranian youths have lost their lives.

To confirm this news, the correspondent of Nejat-e Iran in Ahvaz reported that one giant C-130 military cargo plane was used to carry the Hawizah wounded and dead. This plane made two flights between Tehran and Ahvaz, one after another.

According to reports received from Ahvaz, in their unexpected attacks on Friday night, the Iraqis destroyed most of the bridges in the Hawizah and Hur al-Azim areas, and after laying siege to hundreds of Iranian soldiers and Revolutionary Guards, killed them all. This coincides with the fact that these men were busy withdrawing from the Majnun Islands.

Military experts feel that within the next few days, the nature of the war in the southern border areas between Iran and Iraq will change, because the Iraqi military is planning to use its ground and air forces to carry out a new strategy in this area.

Radio Iran Reports Shortage of Funds for War

GF261622 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian 1330 GMT 26 Aug 85

[Text] During its session today the Economic Council of the Islamic Republic called 1986 the year for "continuing the war."

In a published directive concerning the budget for next year, the Economic Council has stressed that some of the expenses of the war must come from funds taken from the people. In this directive, the Economic Council stated that to provide enough credit for the war would be the government's most important task.

Nejat-e Iran: Regime Cooperates With Terrorists

GF241816 (Clandestine) Radio Nejat-e Iran in Persian 1630 GMT 24 Aug 85

[Text] Cooperation between the Islamic Republic and terrorist organizations throughout the world has entered a new phase. According to an exclusive report, representatives of 28 terrorist organizations, upon the proposals of the Islamic regime of Khomeyni, are busy holding talks to carry out the necessary planning to achieve their evil goals. They are striving to achieve a sort of cooperation with one another.

Some of these terrorist organizations are: West Germany's Bader Meinhoff, Italy's Red Brigade, Japan's Red Army, Palestinian extremists, Lebanese Hizballah, Islamic Amal, Spain's Basque separatists, and the Armenian Secret Army for the Liberation of Armenia.

This report stresses the important fact that the primary funds for these terrorist organizations will be provided by the Islamic regime of Khomeyni and Libya and that Syria will have an important role in providing weapons to these killers.

Nejat-e Iran Reports Intelligence Officer Murdered

GF261755 (Clandestine) Radio Nejat-e Iran in Persian 1630 GMT 26 Aug 85

[Text] Amir Kazemi, head of the Revolutionary Guards' intelligence and information office, has been murdered by order of Mohsen Rezai'e [commander of the Revolutionary Guards Corps], in Tehran's Firuzeh Castle Prison.

According to a report on the subject from one of our correspondents in Tehran, the propaganda machines of the regime have claimed that Kazemi was killed on the war front. In actuality he was murdered by 'Asqar Yakarim, the personal bodyguard of Mohsen Rezai'e, last week in the Firuzeh Castle Prison in Tehran's Farahabad District.

According to the report, about 5 months ago, Mohsen Rezai'e was told that Amir Kazemi had established contact with a network of the Tudeh Party through an intermediary and one of his aides known by the alias Behruz. As a result, he was thereafter put under surveillance. Eleven days ago Kazemi's aide, Behruz, waited on a motorcycle for his Tudeh contact so that he could deliver a parcel filled with photos and documents dealing with security measures taken to protect President 'Ali Khamene'i and Ruhollah Khomeyni, and also the security measures taken to protect Khomeyni's house in Jamaran. Behruz was arrested before he could hand over the documents and was sent to Firuzeh Castle Prison. The Revolutionary Guards also arrested Amir Kazemi.

Mohsen Rezai'e arrived at the scene and ordered his own personal bodyguard to kill Amir Kazemi in his prison cell. 'Asqar Yakarim, Rezai'e's bodyguard, carried out this task immediately.

According to the latest reports, Behruz, the liaison, has been handed over to Khomeyni's revolutionary court in the Armed Forces.

Radio Iran Notes Rising Unemployment

GF241616 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian 1330 GMT 24 Aug 85

[Text] The worsening economic situation in Iran, especially in the past few weeks, has resulted in the unemployment of another group of workers. Nationalist elements inside the Labor Ministry say the government is unable to manage factories and industrial units and, therefore, it has ordered the sacking of unnecessary workers from industrial units. According to this report, another group of workers at the Mobarakeh steel plant, which is one of Iran's biggest industrial centers, have been fired.

According to nationalist sources, managers and mercenaries of the Islamic regime in the (Esoni) Company are using the lack of raw materials as an excuse to prepare the groundwork for the sacking of a large group of workers. This report indicates that following the dismissal of 1,000 workers from the Esfahan thermal power plant and following the closure of this unit, many of the companies related to the power plant, including the Ludimex contracting firm, 'Abbasi contractors, and the Porgaz contracting firm have also closed down. These workers have lost their jobs.

The nationalist elements say that the widespread plan to sack workers, which has been implemented in many industrial units, has also been implemented in the Mina glass factory. In addition to 18 workers who were fired a while ago, there are plans to sack another group of this factory's workers, adding to Iran's ranks of unemployed.

60 DRA Casualties Reported in Farah Province

LD252003 Tehran IRNA in English 1710 GMT 25 Aug 85

[Text] Birjand, Khorassan Prov., Aug 25, IRNA — Soviet-Karmal joint forces lost two helicopters and six tanks, in their attempted attack on a mujahidin base in Farah Province last week. Sixty joint forces troops were either killed or wounded and 40 other surrendered to the Afghan Muslim revolutionaries.

The joint forces air attacked two villages in the region in retaliation for their defeat and destroyed more than 108 residential units. The residents who were informed of the attack had evacuated the villages and no casualities were inflicted.